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Pets for the Elderly Adds New Shelter to Network - Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County

*-Gives the Shelter Access to Program that Helps Seniors 60+
to Afford the Shelter Adoption Fee and Animal Care*

TACOMA, WASHINGTON – 3/9/2026 – The Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County has been selected as a new shelter partner of Pets for the Elderly (PFE), a national nonprofit organization that pays a portion of the fee for senior citizens (age 60 and over) to adopt a companion dog or cat from a participating PFE animal shelter*. The Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County will use the grant funding toward discounted animal adoptions for seniors.

PFE was established in 1992 by the late Avrum (Avvy) Katz, who had the vision of providing companionship to senior individuals through pet ownership, while saving the lives of companion animals in shelters. PFE has facilitated 115,000 adoptions since the organization expanded nationally in 2002. PFE expanded its grant program in 2021 to include animal care assistance and retention services at any of its participating shelters who apply for the grant. Since then, PFE has helped 2,144 senior pet owners with veterinary costs, and 553 with retention.

Recognizing the many well-documented health benefits of pet ownership for seniors, PFE is currently the only national organization matching shelter animals with senior citizens and works with 57 participating shelters in 33 states – shelters that are not only dedicated to saving the lives of animals, but also committed to supporting and implementing the PFE mission.

“We are thrilled to have the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County join our network,” said Susan Kurowski, executive director of Pets for the Elderly. “Their strong presence, providing pet adoptions, lost and found pet services, low-cost vaccine clinics, a pet food and supply pantry, and community support services, makes them an excellent partner, as we work to expand the availability of our program in Washington,” said Kurowski.

“This partnership is an incredibly exciting opportunity to help make pet adoptions more accessible to more people in our community,” said Leslie Dalzell, chief executive officer of the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County. “As a shelter partner with Pets for the Elderly, being able to reduce fees to senior citizens is so impactful, not just for the new pet parents, but also for pets in our shelter looking for new homes.”

For more information about the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County, visit thehumanesociety.org.

learn more about the Pets for the Elderly Foundation or to find a participating shelter near you, visit www.petsfortheelderly.org.

About Pets for the Elderly

The Pets for the Elderly Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) public charity whose mission is to provide companionship to senior individuals through pet ownership, while saving the lives of companion animals in shelters; animals which might otherwise be destroyed due to lack of appropriate homes, and space limitations.

About the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County

The Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County is one of Washington's largest nonprofit animal welfare organizations, providing essential care to more than 9,000 animals in their shelter each year. As a donor-funded organization, the organization relies on community support to find loving homes for nearly 7,000 pets, reunite more than 1,100 lost animals with their families and assist thousands more through innovative community programs.

The Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County's [Friendly Finder](#) program empowers community members to help reunite lost pets with their families without entering the shelter, while their foster and volunteer opportunities provide additional ways to make a difference. Additionally, they offer vital pet support services, including [Spay/Neuter and Wellness Vouchers](#), a monthly [Vaccine and Wellness Clinic](#) and a [Pet Food & Supply Pantry](#). Their newly unveiled [S.P.O.T. mobile veterinary unit](#) will expand access to essential veterinary care and launch a targeted trap-neuter/spay-return (TNR) program across Pierce County.

Learn more at www.thehumanesociety.org.

*including pre-adoption veterinary exams and spay/neuter if part of the adoption cost

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